

INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR PRE-BOARD I EXAMINATION (2023 - 2024) ENGLISH CORE (301)

No. of Printed Pages: 11

SET A

CLASS: XII MAX. MARKS: 80 DATE: 25-11-2023 TIME: 3 Hours

General Instructions:

- The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.
- Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (22 marks) Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

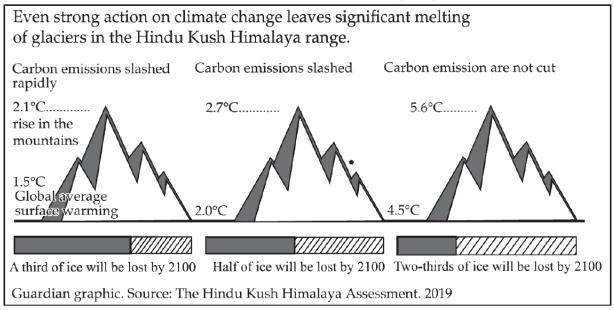
1. Read the following text.

12

- 1. During his recent visit to India, the world golf champion Tiger Woods was all praise for the players at the Delhi Golf Club. As golf gains ground as a corporate sport in India, many top-level Indian corporates will be heading for a game with professionals, such as Tiger Woods. Participating in these events, where amateurs play with professionals, comes for a hefty fee.
- 2. The long-term advantages of these fleeting interactions on the golf course with professionals are debatable. But for corporates playing besides a powerhouse of talent can definitely up their game. This was the general opinion even among the spectators who had watched Tiger Woods in Delhi. Munjal, the amateur player along with him, was also impressed with his game. "Quite a swing, right?", he commented.
- 3. But even those who cannot afford the hefty charges of a top professional, investing in their game by hiring a professional coach has benefits. According to other golf consultants, several Indians are also attending 'golf clinics' abroad for specific programmes to improve their game. According to Butch Harmon, the professional, who has worked with Tiger Woods, a short course generates more power in the swing and in aligning shots. These changes though minor have long-term benefits. In golf, marginal improvements are subtle and small changes like tweaking the position of the hand on the club or learning how to aim your body before swinging the club, can be mastered during these short-term interactions, yield results.
- 4. Another way for Indian golfers to keep connected internationally is through the online golf community. According to Sandeep Sarkar, his experience at the British coach David Leadbetter's academy was most fruitful. 'They showed me a video of my game and I saw how bad I was in some positions.'
- 5. As golf is a technical game, unlike football or other sports, playing every day will not necessarily improve one's game. Hence, amateur golfers are also travelling to Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, and Dubai, for sessions that combine a three-day course play with a one-day clinic with a professional golfer. This is a huge improvement from the standard of coaching available in India. As most Indian trainers are caddies turned coaches, they teach by trial and error.

	, answer the questions given below. what are the various advantages of small changes in the ϱ	game o
golf?		2
 ii. With which statement given below would t A. Golf being a technical game like footband B. As golf is a technical game, playing even C. Golf is a game with many technicalitie D. Golf is a technician's game, unlike foot 	all, will not improve the players. ery day, will not improve the game. s, unlike football.	1
·	about 40 words, to support the view that the writer's writing instances where the writer provides in-depth analysis or	
iv. Select the antonym for the word 'hefty' as of A. loatheC. light	used in para 3 of the text. B. lithe D. sparse	1
v. Complete the sentence appropriately with a One can infer that the golfers who are seek	·	1
vi. Based on the passage, choose the option the right?".	hat is similar in meaning to the golfer's expression, "Quite a	a swing, 1
A. Simple, isn't it?C. Impressive, yes?	B. Could be better, no?D. Too challenging for you?	
vii. 'amateur golfers are also travelling to Th'. Based on the passage what does the term	ailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore and Dubai, for sessio 'sessions' refer to?	ns that 1
viii. Which of the titles suggested below is a wear. A. The Tiger's Visit B. Amateur Players and Professional Golf C. Golf, A Learning Curve for Amateurs D. The Impact of Tiger Woods' Visit on In	f Trainers	1
ix. What similarities and differences exist between	ween Sandeep Sarkar and Butch?	2
change, according to a report, with serious co are dramatically and rapidly cut and succeed	sia's towering mountain chain are doomed to melt due to insequences for almost two billion people. Even if carbon en I in limiting global warming to I.5°C, 36% of the glaciers all e by 2100. If emissions are not cut, the loss soars to two-th	mission long the

2. The glaciers are a critical water store for the 250 million people who live in the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region, and 1.65 billion people rely on the great rivers that flow from the peaks into India, Pakistan, China and other nations. "This is the climate crisis you haven't heard of," said Philippus Wester of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), who led the report. pot for climate change impacts."



- 3. The new report, requested by the eight nations, on the mountains span, is intended to change that. More than 200 scientists worked on the report over five years. Until recently the impact of climate change on the ice in the HKH region was uncertain, said Wester. "But we really do know enough now to take action, and action is urgently needed," he added. The HKH region runs from Afghanistan to Myanmar and is the planet's "third pole", harbouring more ice than anywhere outside Arctic and Antarctica. Limiting the global temperature rise to I.5°C above pre-industrial levels requires cutting emissions to zero by 2050. This is felt to be extremely optimistic by many but still sees a third of the ice lost, according to the report. If the global rise is 2°C, half of the glaciers will be projected to melt away by 2100.
- 4. Since the 1970s, about 15% of the ice in the HKH region has disappeared as temperatures have risen. But the HKH range is 3,500 km long and the impact of warming is variable. Some glaciers in Afghanistan and Pakistan are stable and a few are even gaining ice, most probably due to increased cloud cover that shields the sun and changed winds that bring more snow. But even these will start melting with future warming, Wester said.
- 5. The melting glaciers will increase river flows through to 2050 to 2060, he said, pushing up the risk of high-altitude lakes bursting their banks and engulfing communities. But from the 2060s, river flows will go into decline. The Indus and central Asian rivers will be most affected. But the changes to spring melting already appear to be causing the pre-monsoon river flow to fall just when farmers are planting their crops. "Worse, the monsoon is also becoming more erratic and prone to extreme downpours." said Wester. (Created for academic usage.)

Answer the following questions, based on given passage.

i. Based on the report about the melting of glaciers in the Hindu Kush and Himalaya range mentioned in paragraph (1 &2), what are two potential benefits that could be derived from this study?

Answer in approximately 40 words.

2

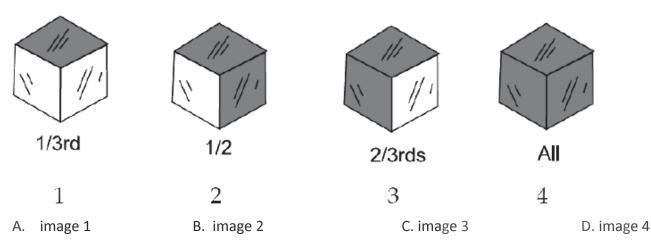
1

ii Pick the option that lists statements that are NOT TRUE according to the passage.

- 1. 36% of the glaciers in the Hindu Kush and Himalaya range will have gone by 2100.
- 2. 1.65 million people rely on the rivers that flow from the peaks into India, Pakistan and China.
- 3. The Hindu Kush-Himalaya region runs from Afghanistan to Nepal.
- 4. River flows will decline from 2060s.

A. 2 and 3 B. 3 and 4 C. 1 and 4 D. 2 and 4

iii Based on the information given in the passage, choose the option that lists the CORRECT depiction of loss of ice, if carbon emissions are slashed.



iv According to the 2019 assessment of Hindu Kush Himalaya range, which option lists the CORRECT percentage of ice that has disappeared since 1970s.

- 1. Rise in temperatures since 1970 has led to the disappearance of about 15% of ice in HKH region.
- 2. More than 200 scientists worked on the HKH Assessment report for over five years.
- 3. The Indus and central Asian rivers will be most affected by the rise in temperature.
- 4. If carbon emissions are left uncut then by 2100 loss of glaciers soars by two-thirds.
- 5. Some glaciers are gaining ice due to increased cloud cover.

A. option 1 &3

B. option 2 &5

C. option 1&5

D. option 3&4

1

1

v Based on the information given in the passage, how might the predicted decline in river flows from the 2060s impact the water management strategies of the countries that rely on these rivers? Consider the effects on agriculture sector.

vi Complete the following sentence based on the passage:

If carbon emissions are not cut, the loss of glaciers along the Hindu Kush and Himalaya range soars to by 2100.

vii Which word in the passage means the same as 'promptly'? (para 1)

A. Rapidly

B. emissions

C. dramatically

D. soars

viii Based on the given graphical representation of data in the passage, choose the option that lists the statement that is TRUE with respect to the slashing of emissions.

- A. If global warming is limited to I.5°C, then only a third of ice will be lost by 2100
- B. If global warming is limited to 2.0°C, then only two thirds of ice will be lost by 2100
- C. If global warming is limited to 5.6°C, then only two thirds of ice will be lost by 2100
- D. If global warming is limited to 4.5°C, then only half of ice will be lost by 2100

SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 marks)

Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.

3. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the two, in about 50 words.

4

(A) You are Josely Mathew, the President of the School Book Club. The club is organising a drive for promoting the reuse of study materials and books. Draft a notice for the school notice board, addressing students of classes IX-XII, informing them about this drive and urging them to contribute to the endeavour. Mention how the donated books would benefit a charitable cause.

OR

- (B) As the House Captain of A.B.M Public School, Telangana, draft a notice for the school notice board, informing House members from IX-XII about the change in topic and submission dates for Round 1 of 'Discovery' the upcoming Inter-House Research-based Paper Presentation Competition. Do not forget to issue an apology for the above. You are Kruthika Reddy.
- 4. Attempt ANY ONE of the two, in about 50 words.

4

(A) Sunita has cleared the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET). Her parents, Seema, and Rahul Pandey are hosting a dinner party to celebrate her success. Draft a formal invitation card giving details of date, time, venue etc.

OR

- (B) You are Dr Shailesh Gupta, an eminent educationist. You have been invited to preside over an Inter Zonal Declamation Competition by Neha, the President of English Literary Club of Government Model Sr. Sec. School Sector19, Chandigarh. Write a letter declining the invitation.
- 5 Attempt **ANY ONE** the of two, in about 120-150 words.

5

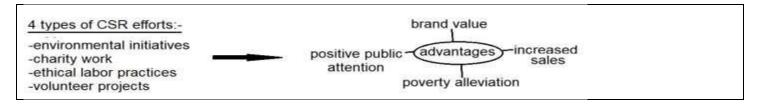
(A) You are Arvind/Aarti Sinha, residing at Marine Vihar, Mumbai. You have come across the following advertisement in 'The Times Today' for the position of School Counsellor at 'New Dawn Public School', Mumbai. Write a letter expressing your interest and provide a detailed resume for the post. Invent the necessary details.

SITUATION VACANT

School Counsellor needed at New Dawn Public School, Mumbai. Should have relevant degree, good communication skills, & at least 5 years' experience. Contact HR Manager Arvind/Aarti Sinha, Marine Vihar, Mumbai.

ΩR

- (B) You are Minu Sen, an intern in a software company in Hyderabad. You feel that the growing relationship of companies with non-profit organisations have made Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) the buzzword today. Your own involvement in one such project for your company has convinced you that CSR looks beyond the company profits and focuses on benefiting the greater community.
 - Write a letter to the editor of a national daily sharing your opinion about CSR and its advantages and provide suggestions to make it an integral part of every organisation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter.



6 Attempt ANY ONE the of two, in about 120-150 words.

5

(A) A Health Mela was organized by the ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The theme of the Mela was 'Child Obesity- a Growing Concern'. The day long activities consisted of a free BMI check-up, poster making and a talk on healthy eating habits. The Mela was inaugurated by the local MLA Mr. Lal. You are Sandhya/Sohan Ahuja, Staff Correspondent of 'The Star'. Write a report covering this event. Mention date, time, venue, details about the inauguration, events, the impact of the Mela, and response of participants.

OR

(B) The construction sector is believed to be quite hazardous and has the maximum number of fatal work injuries because apart from other causes, stakeholders in this sector tend to ignore safety regulations.

As a columnist for an e-magazine, draft an article on the theme of the importance of worker safety in construction zones. Explore possible reasons for the prevailing situation and include suggestions for addressing it. Support your ideas with cues given below.

Headlines * CONSTRUCTION WORKERS: RISK OF ACCIDENT DUE TO FATIGUE * CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE HEALTH CHALLENGES IN EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS * CONSTRUCTION WORKER FATALITY: BURIED UNDER SOIL HEAP * ARE CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS FROM MARS AND WORKERS FROM VENUS? * WILL TRAINING PROGRAMMES REVAMP THE SAFETY STANDARDS?

SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two given.

6

A. Read the following stanza.

Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms;
And such too is the grandeur of the dooms
We have imagined for the mighty dead;
All lovely tales that we have heard or read;
An endless fountain of immortal drink,
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

i. Pick the quote that matches best with

1

"And such too is the grandeur of the dooms we have imagined for the mighty dead."

- A. In the night of death, hope sees a star and listening love can hear the rustle of a wing.
- B. When a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him, lies on the paths of men.
- C. Endings are not always bad, most times they're just beginnings in disguise.
- D. Cowards die many times before their death; the valiant never tastes of death but once.

•	t refers to what 'an endless foun			1
1. Inspirational de		2. A ceaseless series of o		
3. An infinite sour	_	4. An elixir of life for upl		
5. An eternal sour	ce of delight	6. A boundless gift of lov	re	
A. 1, 4 and 5	B. 2, 3 and 5	C. 1, 2 and 6	D. 2, 4 and 6	
_	n extract, state whether the given s and their heroic deeds instil ins			1
iv. Which phrase in tl	ne extract uses the same literary	device as 'deafening silence'.		1
v. The expression 'mi	ghty dead' in the poem indicates	·		1
vi. Complete the sen				1
"The grandeur of t	he dooms we have imagined for t	the mighty dead" relates to OR	·	
B. It is in the news ti	hat all these pitiful kin			
	ht out and mercifully gathered in			
-	es, next to the theatre and the sto	ore.		
	n't have to think for themselves o			
	ood-doers, beneficent beasts of p			
	eir lives enforcing benefits	,		
	ated to soothe them out of their v	wits.		
	g them how to sleep they sleep a			
•	eeping at night the ancient way.			
(A Roadside Sto				
•	the poet in the above lines?			1
(i) aggressive	(ii) tolerant	(iii) sarcastic		
(iv) resigned	(v) sentimental	,		
· · ·	appropriate option.			
A. Only (i)		. (ii) and (iii)		
C. (i), (iv) and (v)		. Only (iii)		
ii. Identify the phrase	e from the extract, that suggests t	the following:		1
•	take 'their' consent before pushi	S	their way.	
	e villagers can be inferred throug			1
A. gullible		passive		
C. hypocritical	D.	indifferent		
iv. Complete the follo	owing analogy correctly. Do NOT	repeat from used example.		1
greedy good doers	s: alliteration ::	oxymoron		

v. Based on the extract, choose the correct opt(1) The villagers are content with their curren(2) The city dwellers impose their own ideas of	t lifestyle.	1
A. Only (1) is true.	B. Only (2) is true.	
C. Both (1) and (2) are true.	D. Neither (1) nor (2) is true.	
vi. Fill the blank with an appropriate word, with ' calculated to soothe them out of their with		1
all. The gate's open. DERRY: Yes, but	things. You ask questions I don't understand. don't have to answer questions. You don't have to	·
i. List the playwright's purpose of using ellipses	() in this extract.	1
 ii. Select the option that best describes Derry at A. Derry: introvert; Mr. Lamb: friendly B. Derry: fearful; Mr. Lamb: domineering C. Derry: friendly; Mr. Lamb: weird D. Derry: open minded; Mr. Lamb: charming 		1
iii. Which of the following best summarises Mr.A. Beauty is being true to yourself.B. There is a kind of beauty in imperfection.C. Beauty is the promise of happiness.D. The beauty of the world lies in the details		1
iv. Derry says, "I came in here because I liked it about the place, as per the extract?	" What was the one significant thing Derry migh	it have liked 1
he would certainly die," Sadao said. "The kindest thing would be to put him back	ve should be arrested and if we turned him over a particle into the sea," Hana said. But neither of them move The inert figure. "What is he?" Hana whispered.	

	What is the tone of the speaker in th		1
		B. Concerned	
C	C. Sarcastic	D. Intrigued	
	_	ment "If we sheltered a white man in our house, we should be arrested r, he would certainly die". How does it reflect the socio-political context	
iii.	Give one reason why the writing sty	yle of the extract can be called a narrative.	1
iv.	Based on the excerpt, how would yo	ou interpret the relationship between Sadao and Hana?	1
A.	A girl from the countryside, she had precede a position of importance and quite recovered from the terror she — the legal adviser, who was also that sad end. While every other mensightly oversized and clumsily tailo	the questions for ANY ONE of the two given. In a gone through all the stages of worldly experience that generally a sophistication that she had found herself catapulted into. She never a felt that day. That was the end of a brief and brilliant acting career a member of the Story Department, had unwittingly brought about amber of the Department wore a kind of uniform —khadi dhoti with a bred white khadi shirt — the legal adviser wore pants and a tie and a coat of mail. Often, he looked alone and helpless	6
i.	Select the option that completes the	given context would refer to ge. street smart.	1
	Select the suitable word from the ex sealed: closed:: propelled:	ktract to complete the following analogy:	1
iii.	Select the correct option to fill in th The harm done to the actress was a A. well-planned act. B. unintentional act. C. act of jealousy. D. act of male dominance.		1
iv.	Based on the above extract, choose A. He disliked the actress from the CB. He acted after thinking through the CC. He did not gell well with others in D. He was always dressed smartly.	hings carefully.	1

v. Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to	infer that the writer is sympathetic towards the	
professional fate of the actor. (Clue: a phrase)		1
vi. Complete the sentence with an appropriate expl	anation, as per the extract.	1
The writer uses the word 'uniform' to refer to th	e outfits of the Department members because just like	a
uniform		
	OR	
same thing And then I have a secret. Did from the universe, eliminate the empty spaces Similarly, we have a lot of empty spaces in our	gs. But in the end, I am convinced I am always doing the you know what will happen if you eliminate the empty soin all the atoms? The universe will become as big as my lives. I call them interstices. Say you are coming over to are coming up, I am waiting for you. This is an intersticed rview)	paces fist.
i. Which one of the following may NOT be an appro	priate title to the above extract?	1
A. "The Empty Spaces of Umberto Eco"		
B. "I am Always Doing Many Things"		
C. "Eco's Echoes"		
D. "Umberto Eco–Mr. Prolific!"		
ii. "I work in empty spaces". Choose the option that	t most accurately captures Eco's idea of empty spaces.	1
1. management of time	2. organisation of space	
3. philosophical inclination	4. command of thought	
A. Options (1) and (2)	B. Options (3) and (4)	
C. Options (1) and (3)	D. Options (2) and (4)	
above extract. Choose the option that correctly (1) If you are 'always doing the same thing', isn't		1
(3) All writing happens in empty spaces. In fact,	why don't you tell all about your experiences?	
A. (1) is not relevant; (2) is appropriate; and		
B. (1) is appropriate; (2) is repetitive; and (3)		
C. (1) is inappropriate; (2) is relevant; and (3		
D. (1) is unnecessary; (2) is intrusive; and (3)	is extrapolatory	
iv. 'Doing many things' here refers to		1
v. How does the narrator's 'secret' reveal his uniqu	e approach to life and work?	1
vi. Find the word from the extract which means the	opposite of 'obtain'.	1
10. Answer ANY FIVE of the following in about 40-	50 words each: 5×2	=10
i. Why do you think Christopher Silvester describes		
·	our opinion with reference to any one writer cited.	
, ,	mmunication, interviewer has position of power, it is an intrusion, e	tc.)
ii. In what ways does the isolated forest setting in '	The Rattrap' enhance the overall atmosphere and	

sentiment of the narrative?

- iii. What is the significance of the imagery of 'sprinting' young trees and merry children in Kamala Das's poem "My Mother at Sixty-Six"?
- iv. How does Pablo Neruda use imagery in "Keeping Quiet" to convey his message about the importance of introspection and unity?
- v. The allure of the unknown is a common human trait. In the context of Sophie from the story "Going Places", how does this fascination manifest itself, particularly in her interactions and perceptions of her surroundings?
- vi. How does the story "Deep Water" highlight the theme of facing one's fears and overcoming them?

11. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 40-50 words each.

2×2=4

- i. The essence of a person is not determined by their physical appearance, but by their inner character and values.

 Discuss this with reference to this statement from 'On the Face of It', "It's not what you look like that matters but it's what you are inside".
- ii. "My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies." What does the author imply when she says her journey to Antarctica was filled with numerous revelations or sudden insights?
- iii. How did the narrator end up at the 'third level' and what indications assured him that he was not in his present time?

12. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

5

i. The prose lessons, 'Deep Water' and 'Indigo' bring out the importance of overcoming fear, to be able to lead our lives successfully. Imagine yourself to be a motivational speaker who has to address high school students. Write this address elaborating on occurrences from the two texts to inspire your audience and to convince them about the importance of overcoming fear.

You may begin like this ...

Good morning, students!

We all know what it's like to be afraid. Fear is our body's natural response to a perceived threat or danger. But when ...

OI

ii. In what ways do the depictions of Mukesh's family in "Lost Spring" and Aunt Jennifer in "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" provide insights into the gender roles in their respective societies? Write a speech that discusses examples from both texts to shed light on the gender roles in these societies and emphasizes on the importance of women's empowerment.

13. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.

5

i. Both Bama and Zitkala Sa experienced the harsh reality of discrimination in their childhood. Instead of letting it pull them down, they both found a way to overcome it. You wish to include a cameo of both in your upcoming blog post. As a part of the research, compare the experiences faced by the two and their response/s to these experiences.

[Clue: Include the similarities and differences in the discrimination they faced - their feelings - determination to overcome – success **Cameo** - a short description that neatly encapsulates someone or something]

OR

ii. How does the Tiger King's belief in the prophecy of his future lead to his downfall, and how does this compare to the influence of superstition in "The Enemy"? Write an article with reference to the quotes, "Let tigers beware!" from "The Tiger King" and "The master ought not to heal the wound of this white man" from "The Enemy".
